

2) The brick at the base of the fill was found to be laid flat and only one course deep. The orientation of the brick bottom of the trench suggested that rather than being the haphazard discard of broken brick, they had been intentionally laid. In addition, because only broken bricks were used and they were not mortared in place, it seems unlikely that the feature was associated with a structure.

3) The trench had a wooden lining along its entire length (Plate 1). The boards were about 1 inch wide and were laid up vertically (i.e., on edge) on both sides of the trench. The lining was held in place by randomly spaced vertical stakes. Again, such a feature is not typical of robbed wall trenches.

4) Although it was apparent that the brick had ended at its western extremity, there was absolutely no evidence, either structurally or in archaeologically identifiable soil stains, for a turn to either the north or the south. There is little doubt that such a turn would have manifested itself somehow, had it existed.

Having determined that the backfilled trench was not the remains of a foundation, other lines of evidence were used to arrive at a new interpretation of its function:

1) There was a marked slope to the brick. The feature is located on a slight rise running from the eastern ridge to the low bottoms in the center of the block. Elevations taken at both ends of the brick demonstrate a drop in elevation from 14.04 feet above sea level at the eastern end to 12.18 feet above sea level at its western terminus, for an overall drop of 1.86 feet along the feature's 42 foot length.

2) The fill to the west of the feature was similar to that associated with the pond in excavations on the adjacent courthouse site. This same dark brown to gray silty fine loam was located beneath and to the west of the brick's western end.

3) The eastern end of the brick had a configuration which suggested a basin (Plate 2).

These three factors combine to suggest that the feature was a drain which carried runoff water and wastes from a structure located near the eastern end (Plate 3).

Artifacts were generally sparse from the drain fill. Ceramics included a wide range of types, ranging in age from the early to the late nineteenth century (Table 1). Because of an inadequate chronology for later ceramic types, little can be determined from them other than that the trench probably was filled by the late